AMBUSH BUG YEAR NONE™

5
OF 6
JAN'09

DCCOMICS.COM

CHEESE!

GIFFEN
FLEMING
MILGROM

I'M DAN DIDIO, AND UNTIL RECENTLY I WAS *EXECUTIVE EDITOR* OF DC COMICS!

IN THAT CAPACITY, I KEPT TELLING GIFFEN AND FLEMING THAT IT WAS *TOO BORING* TO MAKE AN INANIMATE OBJECT LIKE THE SOURCE WALL THE HOST OF THEIR *AMBUSH BUG COMIC!*

YOU NEED TO PUT A *HUMAN FACE* ON THAT WALL, I SAID!

I DIDN'T EXPECT THEM TO *KILL ME* AND BURY MY CORPSE IN THE *WALL'S SURFACE...*

...BUT OKAY, *PROBLEM SOLVED!*

OUR STORY THIS ISSUE REVOLVES AROUND *HENCHMEN,* THOSE SNIVELING AND DISPOSABLE NONENTITIES WHO SERVE AS HUMAN CANNON FODDER FOR THE MASTER PLANS OF *SUPER-VILLAINS!*

THEY'RE KIND OF LIKE *FREELANCERS,* NOW THAT I THINK OF IT! HEH-HEH

GIFFEN AND FLEMING SHOULD KNOW BY NOW THAT MINIONS STAY DEAD, BUT THE GUY IN CHARGE *ALWAYS* RETURNS TO LIFE, *MORE POWERFUL* THAN EVER BEFORE!

MEET THE NEW BOSS!

IGOR (KEITH GIFFEN) PLOT & PENCILS · RENFIELD (ROBERT LOREN FLEMING) DIALOGUE
ODD JOB (AL MILGROM) INKS · SMEE (PAT BROSSEAU) LETTERING
MR. PINK (TOM SMITH) COLORING · OTIS (CHRIS CONROY) ASSISTANT EDITOR
MISS TESCHMACHER (JANN JONES) EDITOR

5:00 A.M.

ALL ACROSS THE DC UNIVERSE, **DISENFRANCHISED CITIZENS** GATHER IN THE PARKING LOTS OF THE DISCOUNT HARDWARE CHAIN KNOWN AS HOME DIRTPO'...

...SIMPLY LOOKING FOR **DISHONEST WORK.**

HOW DO THEY ***HAND OUT*** THESE HENCHMAN JOBS, ANYWAY?

YA WAIT HERE TILL A ***VAN OR TRUCK*** PULLS UP, AND THEN THE DRIVER SAYS HOW MANY GOONS HE ***NEEDS.***

OH, AN' WE PREFER THE TERM **"*HENCHPERSONS,*"** FOR OBVIOUS REASONS.

HEY, THAT'S RIGHT, THERE ARE ***LADY GOONS,*** TOO!

THEY REGULARLY ***EARN THE RESPECT*** OF THEIR MALE PEERS!

HOW DO THEY DO ***THAT?***

MOSTLY BY WEARING ***STILETTO HEELS*** AND KICKING US GUYS IN THE ***CROTCH*** EVERY TIME WE TRY TO TALK TO ONE OF 'EM!

THEY REALLY ***HOLD THEIR OWN,*** AND WE END UP HOLDING OURS!

VRUMMM

YELLOW SNOW NEEDS ***FOUR NEW "SNOWLDIERS"*** TODAY.

ME!

ME!

ME!

YOU, YOU, YOU AND YOU IN THE ***STILETTO HEELS.***

AREN'T YOU ***COMING?***

HE ***POINTED*** AT YOU!

YEAH, AN' ***SO DID YELLOW SNOW*** THE LAST TIME I WORKED FOR HIM!

I SPENT ***HALF MY PAYCHECK*** ON DRY CLEANING!

YELLOW SNOW'S SUPER-SECRET HEADQUARTERS IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST

YOU'VE GOTTA BE KIDDING ME!

NO, SERIOUSLY, THE JOKER PROVIDES COMPLETE RETIREMENT PACKAGES FOR ALL OF HIS HENCH-PERSONS!

OF COURSE, HE ALSO REQUIRES THAT THEY MURDER EACH OTHER DURING THE COMMISSION OF EVERY ROBBERY...

...BUT I'D KILL FOR A 401K, WOULDN'T YOU?

IS THIS YOUR FIRST TIME HENCHING?

YEAH.

AND IT'S JUST NOT AS SORDID OR GLAMOROUS AS I'D ALWAYS PICTURED IT WOULD BE...

...SO CHARLIE TRIPS OVER THE PENGUIN'S UMBRELLA JUST AS BATMAN WHIPS THIS BATARANG AT HIM...

...AND INSTEAD OF KNOCKING HIM DOWN, IT WEDGES SMACK IN CHARLIE'S KEISTER!!

HAHAHA

HENCHING'S NOT WHAT IT USED TO BE!

I WAS ONE OF THE ORIGINAL GESTAPETTES!

WE KILLED THIRTY MEN SIMULTANEOUSLY ONCE, WITH OUR COORDINATED GOOSESTEP HIGH-KICK NECK-SNAP ROUTINE!

THAT'S IMPRESSIVE!

TELL ME ABOUT IT!

IT'S THE ONLY TIME I EVER WISHED I WAS BEING FILMED BY A SECURITY CAMERA!

THE BOSS SAID YOU SHOULD HELP ME MOVE THIS PIECE OF *EQUIPMENT*, SCHWAB.

THE BOSS KNOWS MY *NAME?*

GULP!

WHO DO YA THINK'S BEEN *SIGNING YOUR PAYCHECKS* FOR THE LAST SIX WEEKS?

WOW, THIS THING'S *HEAVY!*

IS IT A *SECRET WEAPON?*

I DON'T ASK QUESTIONS, AND *YOU* SHOULDN'T EITHER!

ALL I KNOW IS THAT THE BOSS SAID TO HAUL IT UP TO HIS *SLEEPING QUARTERS...*

...AND THEN TO SEND UP THE *LADY SNOWLDIERS*, ONE AT A TIME!

HE CALLED HIM "*SCHWAB.*"

THAT'S THE CONFIRMATION I'VE BEEN *SEEKING* THAT MY TARGET IS, INDEED, THE BEING KNOWN AS AMBUSH BUG!

AND SINCE I GOT STUCK WITH THIS ASSIGNMENT BY DRAWING THE *DREADED SHORT STRAW...*

...I MUST BE CERTAIN NOT TO *BLOW IT* LIKE THE TWO MONITORS WHO PRECEDED ME!

IT'S *STRANGE!*

HE DOESN'T LOOK *CAPABLE* OF PRESENTING ANY THREAT TO THE SANCTITY OF THE MULTIVERSE!

STILL, HE DID SOMEHOW DEFEAT *TWO* OF MY BRETHREN...

HALT, AMBUSH BUG!

I HAVE COME TO *NEUTRALIZE* YOU!

WHAT, MORE *TRAINING??*

LISTEN, PAL, I *CLOCK OUT* IN FIVE MINUTES, SO THIS'LL HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL TOMORROW!

WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE *DOING??*

I'VE *EXPRESSLY FORBIDDEN* ANY OUTSIDE WEAPONS TO BE BROUGHT INTO MY IGLOO OF INCONTINENCE!

YOUR... *WHOZIT?*

SKIP THE SARCASM AND *TURN IN YOUR UNIFORM,* SNOWLDIER!

YOU'RE *FIRED!*

YOU PRESUME TO INTERFERE IN MATTERS *BEYOND YOUR KEN,* YELLOW SNOW!

I AM A MONITOR, HERE TO *DISPATCH* THE ONE YOU KNOW AS IRWIN SCHWAB, AND THEN I SHALL *LEAVE PEACEFULLY.*

"LEAVE PEACEFULLY" SOUNDS LIKE *YOUR CUE,* BUDDY BOY.

BUT...I DIDN'T GET *PAID* YET THIS WEEK!

I'M A FRIGGIN' MONITOR, DO YOU GET IT?? SEE THE *CORNROWS??*

MON-NIT-TOR!!

THERE'S *NO NEED* TO RAISE YOUR VOICE, PARTICULARLY HERE IN MY IGLOO OF INCONTI--

POP!

BOOM! BOOM!

THAT'S THE *THIRD JOB* THOSE PESKY MONITORS HAVE COST ME THIS YEAR!

BUT HOLD ON, THAT GIVES ME AN *IDEA!*

I'VE BEEN CONFINING MY JOB SEARCH TO *JUST THIS ONE EARTH...*

SNAP!

...WHEN THERE'S A GREAT BIG BOUNTIFUL *MULTIVERSE* OUT THERE!

I CAN NEVER KEEP ALL THESE ALTERNATE EARTHS STRAIGHT, SO I'VE NAMED THEM AFTER THE THING I LIKE **BEST** ABOUT EACH ONE.

I CALL THIS PLANET **EARTH SEASONED TATER TOTS.**

I DON'T SEE ANY **"HELP WANTED"** SIGNS.

HMM, BUT CHECK OUT THE **CUTE CABOOSE** ON THAT CHICK IN THE TIGHT SKIRT!

WAIT A SECOND! THAT'S **MY** CABOOSE!

SHE'S... **ME!**

WHOOPEE!

ON EARTH SEASONED TATER TOTS, I'M A HOT BABE WITH A **BODACIOUS BOD!**

UH-OH.

BUNNY, USE YOUR JLA SIGNAL DEVICE TO REPORT A **DERANGED LUNATIC** WHO NEEDS IMMEDIATE PICKUP AT OUR COORDINATES!

DONE.

ME... **DERANGED?**

SAY, WHAT'S THAT GREEN **BEAM OF LIGHT** HEADING DIRECTLY TOWARD--

YOINKS!

ACCORDING TO MY PRELIMINARY CALCULATIONS, WINA, THAT INDIVIDUAL EXHIBITS A VOICE PATTERN AND MUSCULAR STRUCTURE **STATISTICALLY INDISTINGUISHABLE** FROM YOUR OWN!

HE'S EITHER YOUR IDENTICAL TWIN OR AN **ALTERNATE EARTH DOPPEL-GANGER!**

BOY, IT'S NO WONDER THAT YOU'RE KNOWN AS **BRAINY BUNNY!**

RELAX AND TRY TO *BREATHE NORMALLY!*

I'M GOING TO ENCASE YOU IN AN *AIR BUBBLE* FOR OUR TRIP TO THE MOON!

COOL!

I MUST BE A MEMBER OF THE *JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA* ON THIS EARTH!

BEFORE I KNOW IT, I'M COMFORTABLY ENSCONCED IN MY OWN COZY ROOM IN JLA HEADQUARTERS!

THANKS FOR HELPING ME CHANGE INTO MY NEW *JUSTICE LEAGUE GARB,* WONDER MALE!

THAT'S A *PRISON UNIFORM,* YOU WACKO!

AND I'M GLAD YOU ENJOYED THE FULL BODY CAVITY SEARCH, BUT KNOW THAT WE'RE *CONFISCATING* THE LAWN ORNAMENT, LICENSE PLATE AND WAFFLE IRON!

WHAT A *CUSHY SETUP!*

NO *GRASS* TO MOW, NO *CAR* TO MAINTAIN, AND I DON'T EVEN HAVE TO MAKE *BREAKFAST!*

AND *BUNNY.*

YOU'LL TAKE BUNNY *AWAY* FROM ME, IF I LET IT HAPPEN.

SHE'S DONE NOTHING BUT *TALK ABOUT YOU* SINCE YOU FIRST SHOWED UP!

HEY, *EVERYBODY'S* DOTING ON ME!

LOOK, I'M EVEN BRINGING AN EXTRA PILLOW TO *MYSELF!*

BUNNY IS *MINE!!*

SHE MIGHT NOT BE MUCH TO *LOOK AT...*

...BUT I *CAN'T LIVE* WITHOUT HER SPARKLING INTELLECTUAL INSIGHTS!

MMMPH!

NEEDLESS TO SAY, I TELEPORTED OUT OF THAT CELL BEFORE I COULD COMMIT SELFICIDE...

...RETRIEVED MY LAWN ORNAMENT, LICENSE PLATE AND WAFFLE IRON...

...AND THEN POPPED ON OVER TO AN ALTERNATE WORLD I CALL EARTH MARIO BAVA FILM MARATHON!

WHOOP! WHOOP! WHOOP!

GASP!

DO WITH ME WHAT YOU *WILL*, AMBUSH BUG!

I CAN FIGHT YOU *NO MORE!*

REND MY *FLESH*, DRAIN MY *BLOOD*, RIP OUT MY--

SKREEK

SORRY TO INTERRUPT AGAIN, BOSS, BUT YOUR THREE O'CLOCK IS HERE!

SHOULD I HAVE HIM *WAIT?*

YES, *YES!*

HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO *TELL* YOU??

IT'S JUST THAT HE'S GOING TO BE *TIED UP* LATER.

OH, AND YOUR TWO-THIRTY DISEMBOWELMENT *DIED OF FRIGHT.*

HIS *WIFE'S* ON THE WAY, THOUGH, SO I CAN SEND HER IN AS A *SUBSTITUTE...*

YES, YES, *FINE!*

JUST SPARE ME THE DETAILS AND *STOP INTERRUPTING ME!!*

SKREEK

NO DETAILS, NO INTERRUPTIONS, *GOT* IT!

WILL THERE BE *ANYTHING ELSE?*

SIGH!

YES, GET ME *ULTRA-MAN* ON THE PHONE.

YOU CAN KEEP THE *LAWN ORNAMENT*, BUT I'M GONNA WANT THAT WAFFLE IRON *BACK!*

EARTH PEACH SCHNAPPS

THE PROBLEM WITH THESE ALTERNATE EARTHS IS THAT THE TOPOGRAPHY'S NOT ALWAYS IDENTICAL...

WHUMP!

PTAU!

MAN, THIS REALLY STINKS!

JUST WHEN I FINALLY FOUND A [redacted] JOB I REALLY LIKED, THE [redacted] HAS TO HIT THE FAN AND I'M [redacted] IN THE [redacted]

I'LL BE [redacted] IF I'M GOING TO LET ANY [redacted] BEND ME OVER AND [redacted] MY [redacted] EVER AGAIN!

THEY CAN [redacted] MY [redacted] FOR A CHANGE, THOSE [redacted]

GEE WHIZ, WHAT'S *WRONG* WITH ME?

MY BALLOONS HAVE *NEVER* CONTAINED THIS MUCH PROFANITY BEFORE!

MY THEY CAN FOR A CHANGE, THOSE

[redacted] YOU AND THE [redacted] HORSE YOU *RODE IN ON*, IRWIN SCHWAB!

HUH?!

DANDY?

NO, YOU [redacted] I AM A [redacted] MONITOR...

...HERE TO [redacted] YOUR SORRY [redacted] TO PRESERVE THE *SANCTITY* OF THE [redacted] MULTIVERSE!

WRONG.

YOU'RE MY OLD FRAT BROTHER DAN DIDIO, TRYING TO *YANK MY CHAIN,* JUST LIKE YOU ALWAYS DID IN THE GOOD OLD DAYS!

YOU DON'T [redacted] BELONG HERE, YOU [redacted]

LISTEN TO YOURSELF, YOU [redacted] BLEAT LIKE A LITTLE [redacted] GIRL!

I RECALL A TIME WHEN YOU DID A BIT OF BLEATING *YOURSELF,* DANDY!

BAAAAAHHH!

YOU WILL *RUE THE* [redacted] DAY THAT YOU HAZED MY [redacted] YOU [redacted]

GOLLY *MOSES!*

[redacted]

Leave It to Black Bar

CAN YOU [redacted] EXPLAIN THIS [redacted] *REPORT CARD,* YOUNG MAN?

GOSH, DAD, I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY!

Reading	B
Writing	C
Arithmetic	B
Scatology	F
Biology	C

The Black Bar Family

HE [redacted] TAKES AFTER YOUR SIDE OF THE [redacted] FAMILY!

WHAT ABOUT YOUR [redacted] [redacted] UNCLE, THE [redacted] PRIEST??

AW, SHUCKS!

EARTH NEW CAR SMELL

NUTS!

KERSPLASH

GLUB!

THIS PLACE HAS CHANGED A *TON* SINCE I WAS HERE LAST!

=CAFF=

IT'S ALMOST LIKE THERE WAS SOME KIND OF *GREAT DISASTER* THAT TOOK PLACE!

BUT WHAT KIND OF *TWISTED CULTURAL CATALYST* COULD TRIGGER THE MORAL ROT AND EVENTUAL COLLAPSE OF AN ENTIRE CIVILIZATION??

OH.

DC

HE DID IT

OH, RIGHT.

HIM

HIS FAULT

HE DID IT

APES ON COVERS SELL COMICS.
APES ON COVERS SELL COMICS.
APES ON COVERS SELL COMICS.
A LONE SURVIVOR!
PERHAPS HE CAN PROVIDE SOME CLUE TO THE EVENTS THAT LED TO THIS WORLD'S DEMISE!
GRAAIN

APES ON COVERS SELL COMICS!
WELL, DUH!
BUT WHAT'S THAT GOT TO DO WITH WHAT HAPPENED HERE??

THEN THE APE BEGAN TO REVEAL THE STORY OF AN IDYLLIC WORLD WHERE PEACE REIGNED SUPREME AND MAN LIVED IN HARMONY WITH NATURE...
THERE'S NOTHING TO DO AROUND HERE BUT PLANT ANOTHER FOREST, KRYPTO!
CHUCKLE!
OKAY, YOU CAN DIG THE HOLES!
WOOF!

ONLY ONE PERSON ON EARTH NEW CAR SMELL WAS DISSATISFIED WITH THIS HAPPY ARRANGEMENT...
"HAPPY ARRANGEMENT," MY FUZZY BEHIND!
IT'S A BORE AND IT'S BAD FOR SALES!
AS A CAPTAIN OF INDUSTRY, I MUST FIND A WAY TO CREATE A NICE, PROFITABLE CRISIS HERE!
AND I SHALL DO SO, OR MY NAME'S NOT--

--DEX DUTHOR!

TRUE TO HIS WORD, THE EVIL INDUSTRIALIST UNCOVERED AN ANCIENT MAP SHOWING THE LOCATION OF A FABLED TALISMAN OF INCALCULABLE POWER...
OKAY, I WENT PAST THE MANY-BREASTED MOUNTAIN CHAIN AND MADE A SHARP RIGHT AT THE PHALLIC BOULDER...
...AND THE NATIVE BEARERS WHO ARE CARRYING ME HAVE HELPFULLY LOCATED THE QUICKSAND TRAP MARKING THE CAVE'S ENTRANCE.
MMMPH! ERRRGH!

SOON, THE EVIL GENIUS FOUND WHAT HE HAD BEEN SEEKING...

THE FABLED BLUE *PENCIL OF SCHWARTZAMOTTO!*

THIS IS THE INSTRUMENT BY WHICH I SHALL REMAKE THE VERY FACE OF AN *ENTIRE UNIVERSE!!*

NO MORE SWEETNESS, *BEGONE* LIGHT!

ALL WHO LIVE SHALL *DIE,* AND THEN BE REBORN SO THAT THEY MAY DIE AGAIN FOR A *SECOND SALES SPIKE!*

AND SO IT CAME TO PASS, FOR THE FABLED BLUE PENCIL OF SCHWARTZAMOTTO COULD REWRITE **HISTORY ITSELF!**

SOON EARTH NEW CAR SMELL WAS VIRTUALLY UNRECOGNIZABLE, BUT THAT WAS **NOTHING** COMPARED TO THE CHANGES WROUGHT UPON ITS **GREATEST HEROES...**

I *KILLED* A GUY!

I SWEAR LIKE A [redacted] *TROOPER!*

I'M *UNDRESSING* YOU WITH MY EYES!

ALAS, I HAVE DONE MY WORK *TOO WELL!*

NOW THERE EXISTS NOTHING BUT *DEATH AND DESTRUCTION,* WHICH IS REALLY JUST AS BORING IN ITS OWN UGLY WAY!

THEREFORE IT IS TIME THAT I PUT AN *END* TO THIS SAD CHAPTER, AND I *SHALL* OR MY NAME'S NOT--

--DARKDIDIO!

GULP! ARE YOU CERTAIN YOU WANT ME TO UNLEASH THE *ANTI-SALES EQUATION,* MASTER?

DO IT, MIANTIS!

THE DIRECT SALES MARKET QUICKLY COLLAPSED, AND WITHOUT COMIC BOOKS THE WORLD LOST HOPE!

APES ON COVERS SELL COMICS.

APES ON COVERS SELL COMICS.

APES ON COVERS SELL COMICS.

HIS FAULT

DID IT

HIS

AND SOON ALL THAT WAS LEFT OF A TEEMING POPULATION WAS ONE GIBBERING GORILLA WITH NOTHING SIGNIFICANT TO SAY!

APES ON COVERS SELL--

--HUH?!

WELL, I NEVER!

HOW RUDE!

EARTH SILK SHEETS

AND THIS BIG APE NEVER SHUT UP!

BLAH, BLAH, BLAH!

AND HE WAS JUST REPEATING THE SAME THING OVER AND OVER AND OVER AND OVER AND OVER AND OVER!

I HATE THAT!

AND OVER AND OVER AND OVER AND OVER!

FORTUNATELY, THOUGH, THE APE WAS TELEPATHIC...

...SO HE GAVE ME A PRETTY CLEAR MENTAL PICTURE OF WHAT WENT WRONG ON HIS DEVASTATED WORLD!

WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

I NEED TO WALK THE SILENT STREETS AND PONDER THE MEANING OF IT ALL!

PLUS, MY LEG'S ASLEEP.

SNORT!

THE DIMWIT WHO FLUNKED OUT OF PHILOSOPHY 101 IS GOING OFF TO "PONDER"!

HOW ABOUT BUYING ME ANOTHER DRINK, SAILOR?

O-OKAY.

WHAT'S THE SOUND OF *ONE HAND CLAPPING?*

IF A TREE FALLS IN THE WOODS AND NOBODY HEARS IT, DOES IT MAKE A *NOISE?*

HOW MUCH WOOD WOULD A WOODCHUCK CHUCK IF A WOODCHUCK COULD CHUCK WOOD?

WHOA, I JUST HAD A *BRAINSTORM!*

MAYBE IT WAS A WOODCHUCK WHO *FELLED THAT TREE!*

SIGH!

DANDY WAS ALWAYS BETTER THAN ME AT *BRAIN-TEASERS!*

I KNOW HE BECAME A MONITOR AND TRIED TO *KILL ME,* AND THAT HIS WICKED MACHINATIONS LED TO THE EXTINCTION OF AN *ENTIRE RACE...*

...BUT I STILL CAN'T HELP BUT FEEL THAT MY OLD FRAT BROTHER IS STILL BASICALLY *GOOD AT HEART!*

COMIC

R.I.P.

K.I.A.

D.O.A.

OH, FOR *PETE'S SAKE!*

GET A *CLUE,* YOU OSTRICH!

FLIT

GAK?

WOGGLE!

HOW LONG ARE YOU GOING TO *BURY YOUR HEAD* IN THE SAND?

KLONK

OR THE *SIDEWALK,* AS THE CASE MAY BE!

HE'S *COMING AROUND*, SAKI TOOMI.

DO YOU THINK HE'LL *HEAR US OUT*, GO-GO CHEX?

FOR THE SAKE OF THIS WORLD, LET'S *HOPE* SO!

AMBUSH BUG, PLEASE FORGIVE US FOR BRINGING YOU HERE *AGAINST YOUR WILL!*

WE KNOW THAT YOU CAN TELEPORT AWAY AT ANY TIME, BUT WE *BESEECH* YOU TO STAY LONG ENOUGH TO HEAR WHAT WE HAVE TO SAY!

TELL HIM ABOUT THE *DIDIO*, BOSS!

WHY SHOULD I LISTEN TO YOU AFTER ALL THE *GRIEF* YOU'VE CAUSED ME, "WONDER CHICK"?

AND WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR FAR-OUT, GROOVIN', WITH-IT, SIXTIES *HIPSTER PATTER??*

I'VE DROPPED THE SHTICK IN ORDER TO DEMONSTRATE THAT WHAT I HAVE TO TELL YOU IS *DEADLY SERIOUS!*

THE WORLD AS WE KNOW IT WILL SOON *END*, THANKS TO YOUR OLD FRIEND DAN DIDIO!

YOU'RE *NUTS!*

DANDY ISN'T A THREAT TO THE DC UNIVERSE-- HE'S A *FAN!*

SURE, IT ALL *STARTED OUT* INNOCENTLY ENOUGH, WITH A CALL TO FELLOW ENTHUSIASTS EVERYWHERE TO JOIN TOGETHER IN CELEBRATION OF THEIR MUTUAL LOVE OF A FICTIONAL CONSTRUCT!

BUT THEN, THINGS GOT A LITTLE *TOO REAL!*

POP!

OKAY, YOU'VE GOT MY *ATTENTION.*

COME TO THE *POINT.*

YOUR OLD FRAT BROTHER, DAN DIDIO, IS SYSTEMATICALLY DESTROYING EVERY PLANET IN THE MULTIVERSE!

THE DANDY I KNEW WOULDN'T *DO* THAT!

NO, BUT HAVE YOU EVER HEARD THE SAYING THAT *POWER CORRUPTS,* AND THAT ABSOLUTE POWER CORRUPTS *ABSOLUTELY?*

IRONICALLY, DAN DIDIO GOT HIS **FIRST TASTE** OF POWER AT COMIC BOOK CONVENTIONS, ADDRESSING THE MOST **POWERLESS** INDIVIDUALS ON THE FACE OF THE PLANET!

HE FILLED **LARGE HALLS** WITH HIS PERSONAL MAGNETISM AND DYNAMIC DELIVERY, AND THIS SERVED TO WHET HIS APPETITE FOR A **LARGER ARENA!**

Today– Dan DiDio, Supreme Leader of the DC Nation

BEFORE LONG HE LEARNED TO TAKE FULL ADVANTAGE OF THE RAZOR-FINE LINE BETWEEN **FAN AND FANATIC!**

WHEN THE **DISAPPEARANCES** BEGAN, THE PUBLIC INITIALLY TOOK VERY LITTLE NOTICE.

THESE WERE MINOR CHARACTERS WHO FELL WELL **UNDER THE RADAR.**

BY THE TIME OPEN WARFARE ERUPTED, IT WAS TOO LATE FOR FANS TO DO ANYTHING BUT **SNARK IMPOTENTLY** ON UNREAD MESSAGE BOARDS!

NOT EVEN THE CHILDREN WERE SPARED!

YOU'LL NEVER TAKE ME *ALIVE,* I TELL YA!

I'M BURPED, BATHED, POWDERED AND CHANGED, AND I'VE GOT A *WEEK'S SUPPLY* OF STRAINED GREEN BEANS!

FWUD FWUD FWUD

AT-AT-AT-AT-AT

HAS THE LEGION OF SUPER-PETS BEEN SENT TO THE *SLAUGHTERHOUSE* YET?

THEY'VE BEEN THERE AND *BACK!*

WE JUST RECEIVED THE FIRST CASE OF NEW *HUNGER DOGS BRAND* PET FOOD!

EVEN GRIM DEATH FAILED TO STOP THIS INSATIABLE POWERMONGER!

LIKE THE MANY CHARACTERS HE KILLED, REVIVED AND KILLED AGAIN, HE HAD **TRANSCENDED** *MORTALITY TO BECOME A SHAPER OF WORLDS!*

AND THESE ARE *BUT A FEW* OF HIS COUNTLESS VICTIMS!

WHA-AT?

AMBUSH BUG IS *GONE!*

HE MUST HAVE *TELEPORTED* WHEN WE WEREN'T LOOKING!

...AND THIS GUY *NEVER SHUT UP!*

BLAH! BLAH! BLAH!

OH, I *HATE* THAT!

OF COURSE, THE VILLAINS *DO* TEND TO PONTIFICATE.

WE HEROES LEAN MORE TOWARD THE *LACONIC,* BUT I'VE ALREADY SAID TOO MUCH.

WE FORGOT!

IT HAS BEEN BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION BY THE POWERS-THAT-BE THAT WE ARE TECHNICALLY A CROSSOVER SERIES (SINCE WE ARE MAKING FUN OF CROSSOVER SERIES, AND YOU ARE WHAT YOU BERATE), SO WE ARE CONTRACTUALLY REQUIRED TO FOLLOW ALL OF THE RULES WHICH GOVERN THOSE MAGNIFICENT JAMFESTS. AS WE APPROACH THE END OF OUR MINISERIES, WE THOUGHT WE'D USE THIS PAGE TO SQUEEZE IN SOME OF THE MANDATORY COMPONENTS WE'VE UNWITTINGLY NEGLECTED. ENJOY!

AN OBLIGATORY APPEARANCE BY **SUPERMAN-PRIME,** HERE DELIVERING THE RARELY SEEN "KANDOR CHEER"...

CREAK

SOME WHOLLY INAPPROPRIATE **COMIC BOOK ICONOGRAPHY...**

A WINK-WINK NUDGE-NUDGE **STREET SIGN OR TWO...**

GIFFEN WAY

FLEMING NO WAY

ONE NEARLY NAKED **SUPERHEROINE...**

MY CONGRESSMAN SHALL HEAR OF THIS!!

THE WOEFULLY INADEQUATE **REINVENTION** OF A DC CHARACTER...

AND AT LEAST ONE SHAMELESS ATTEMPT TO RIDE ON **GEOFF JOHNS'S COATTAILS...**

AND MEN SHALL CALL ME...BLACKENED AMBER BUTANE!

BUNNY, DID ANYONE *CALL* WHILE I WAS OUT?

YES, SNUGGUMS... YOUR FRIEND *DANDY.*

HE SAID HE KNOWS YOU FROM *SCHOOL.*

YOU *SPOKE* TO HIM?

YEAH, HE SOUNDED *NICE.*

WE CHATTED FOR NEARLY AN *HOUR.*

THAT'S WEIRD.

DANDY WAS NEVER ABLE TO SPEAK TO A WOMAN WITHOUT PUTTING HIS *BIG FAT FOOT* IN HIS MOUTH!

ERRR...

WHAT DID YOU AND MY DEAR FRIEND DANDY *TALK ABOUT,* ANYWAY?

IF YOU MUST KNOW, WE TALKED ABOUT *YOU.*

HE'S, LIKE, YOUR BIGGEST FAN AND WOULDN'T STOP *SINGING YOUR PRAISES.*

OH, GOD, IT'S ALL *TRUE.*

POP!

GO-GO CHEX? SAKI TOOMI? I'VE COME TO *APOLOGIZE!*

YOU WERE *RIGHT* ABOUT DANDY!

HE'S CLEARLY *NOT* THE SAME GUY I ONCE KNEW!

HELLO?

GASP!

THIS IS A *BAD SCENE,* DADDY-O!

TOTALLY *BOGUS!*

THE PLACE IS DEADSVILLE AND THEY'RE BOTH *REAL GONE!*

WHICH MEANS THAT IT'S NOW ALL UP TO *ME!*

THIS WORLD IS ON THE *BRINK OF DESTRUCTION,* AND I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO SEES IT COMING!

THEREFORE, I AM LEFT WITH BUT *ONE COURSE OF ACTION...*

EARTH POSTCARD SUNSETS

I'M SORRY, SIR, BUT I CAN'T ADMIT YOU INTO THE WILDSTORM UNIVERSE UNLESS YOU'RE ON *THIS LIST!*

I SOMETIMES GO BY THE NAME "*HOPPY THE MARVEL BUNNY.*"

ROW ROW ROW YOUR BOAT, GENTLY DOWN THE STREAM...

NOW YOU COME IN, CHEEKY!

HEY...WHY NOT?

...MERRILY, MERRILY, MERRILY, MERRILY...

ROW ROW ROW YOUR BOAT...

HA-HA! THAT'S GOOD, CHEEKY!

...GENTLY DOWN THE STREAM...

...LIFE IS BUT A DREAM!

ROW ROW ROW YOUR BOAT...

...MERRILY, MERRILY, MERRILY, MERRILY...

KRAKABOOM

...LIFE IS BUT A SCREAM!

EEEEEEEEEEEEE

NEXT ISSUE:

WE'LL TRY TO SQUEEZE IN A PARODY OF FINAL CRISIS!

URGH!

YOU GUYS ARE STILL READING IT, AREN'T YOU?